

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/814,183  
Amendment dated December 4, 2003  
Reply to OA of April 2, 2003

**AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:**

Delete the current Abstract and replace therewith the attached substitute Abstract.

b<sub>1</sub> A link of a caterpillar which is allowed to maintain stabilized durability for a long period. The fixing structure has a link [[1]], and a pin [[2]] inserted into a pin inserting bore [[7]] formed in the link [[1]]. A peripherally extending concave groove [[18]] formed on the end portion of the pin [[2]] and an opening periphery conjugate to form an annular space [[16]]. In order to limit relative escaping motion of the pin [[2]] in the off-opening side (toward receding direction), an escape limiting ring [[17]] is fitted into the annular space [[16]]. The hardness of the bottom surface of the peripherally extending concave groove [[18]] is lower than the surface hardness of a link engaging portion of the pin [[2]].